

A

jc961 U.S. PTO
12/15/00

~~~~~

Atty Docket: GEMS:0036--2/YOD  
15-SV-5898

jc914 U.S. PTO  
09/737874  
  
12/15/00

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <p><b>“EXPRESS MAIL” MAILING LABEL</b><br/> <b>EL 652 334 646 US</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                 |
| <p><b>NUMBER:</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                 |
| <p><b>DATE OF DEPOSIT:</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <p><b>December 15, 2000</b></p> |
| <p><i>Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, I hereby certify that I am personally depositing this paper or fee with the U.S. Postal Service, “Express Mail Post Office to Addressee” service on the date indicated above in a sealed envelope (a) having the above-numbered Express Mail label and sufficient postage affixed, and (b) addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.</i></p> |                                 |
| <p><b><i>December 15, 2000</i></b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                 |
| <p><i>Date</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p><i>Lynda Howell</i></p>      |

1

6.a. \_\_\_\_\_ A verified statement claiming small entity status is enclosed.

or

6.b. \_\_\_\_\_ A verified statement claiming small entity status was filed in a parent application and small entity status is still proper and desired in this continuing application.

7. \_\_\_\_\_ An Information Disclosure Statement and PTO-1449.

X Please address all correspondence in connection with this application to **Patrick S. Yoder, Fletcher, Yoder & Van Someren, P.O. Box 692289, Houston, Texas 77269-2289; telephone (281) 970-4545.**

X Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

**--This application is a Divisional of application Serial No. 09/199,507, filed November 25, 1998.--**

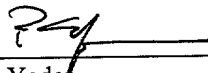
X Cancel in this application original claims **15-22 and 29-40** of the prior application before calculating the filing fee. (At least one original independent claim must be retained for filing purposes.)

The filing fee is calculated on the basis of the claims originally filed in the prior application, and any claims canceled by amendment.

| CLAIMS | FOR                                                                             | NUMBER FILED | NUMBER EXTRA | RATE                          | CALCULATIONS |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
|        | TOTAL CLAIMS 38                                                                 | - 20 =       | 8            | X \$ 18.00                    | \$144.00     |
|        | INDEPENDENT CLAIMS 4                                                            | - 3 =        | 1            | X \$ 80.00                    | \$80.00      |
|        | MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (If applicable)                                     |              |              | + 270.00                      |              |
|        |                                                                                 |              |              | BASIC FEE                     | \$710.00     |
|        |                                                                                 |              |              | Total of above Calculations = | \$934.00     |
|        | Reduction by 1/2 for filing by small entity (Note 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.9, 1.27, 1.28. |              |              |                               | \$           |
|        |                                                                                 |              |              | TOTAL =                       | \$ 934.00    |

The undersigned declares that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date: December 15, 2000

  
Patrick S. Yoder  
Reg. No. 37,479  
Fletcher, Yoder & Van Someren  
P.O. Box 692289  
Houston, Texas 77269-2289  
(281) 970-4545